



Catholic Life and RE Newsletter

A Reflection on Autumn Term 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

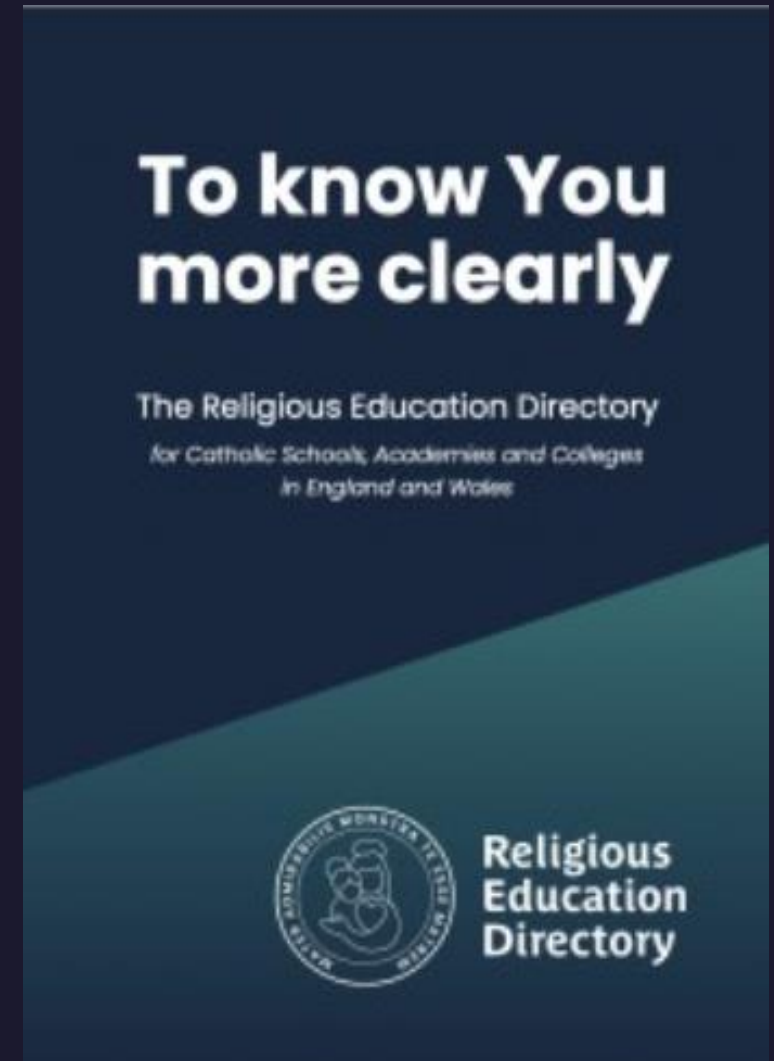
We are delighted to present our new Religious Education newsletter, aimed at keeping parents and carers informed about the RE learning experiences and activities that take place at St Mary's. Our school community is committed to nurturing the spiritual and moral development of our children through a comprehensive approach to Religious Education and the Catholic Life and Mission of our school.

Throughout the Autumn term, we made significant strides in aligning our curriculum with the new Religious Education Directory "To Know You More Clearly". Classes from Year 1 to Year 4 have been actively engaging with the 'Vine and the Branches' scheme, which provides a rich foundation for exploring key religious themes. Meanwhile, our Nursery, Reception, and Years 5 and 6 classes have been crafting their learning experiences directly from the Directory, ensuring a cohesive and comprehensive understanding of our faith.

Moreover, an integral focus of our curriculum has been the continued development of the Catholic Pupil Profile, emphasising the importance of the eight virtues within our school community. We have particularly centred our efforts on instilling the values of being Generous and Grateful, Faith-filled and Hopeful, and Learned and Wise. Through various activities, discussions, worships and reflections, our pupils have embraced these virtues, allowing them to grow in character and faith.

We appreciate your ongoing support and collaboration as we continue to foster a vibrant religious environment at St Mary's, where every child can thrive spiritually and academically whilst living out our school mission statement of
"Working, Praying, Sharing and Learning Together".

Yours sincerely,
Miss C Isaac and Mrs J Fitzgerald
RE Co-ordinators



Grateful and Generous

Learned and Wise

Ambitious, Capable Learners

Curious about everything and active in their engagement with the world, changing whatever they can for the better. Learned, finding God in all things and wise in the way they use their learning for the common good.

Enterprising, Creative Contributors

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gifts of other people and for the blessings of each day and generous with their gifts.

St Mary's Pupil Profile

Working, Praying and Sharing and Learning Together

Gweithio, Gweddiwn, Rhannu a Ddysgu
gyda'n Gilydd

Ethical, Informed Citizens

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; prophetic in the example they set to others; eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, and in the relations between people.



Healthy, Confident Individuals

Faith Filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future; Attentive to their experience and to their vocation; and discerning about the choices they make and the effects of those choices. Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.

Discerning and Attentive

Curious and Active

Eloquent and Truthful

Intentional and Prophetic

Faith-Filled and Hopeful

September-Mission Statement Week



'Working, Praying, Sharing and Learning Together'

'Gweithio, Gweddiwn, Rhannu a Ddysgu gyda'n Gilydd'

We started the Autumn term with our Mission Statement Week, where we concentrated on the core values encapsulated in our school Mission Statement: "Working, Praying, Sharing and Learning Together."

Throughout the week, pupils engaged in various activities designed to deepen their understanding of these principles and explore how we embody them in our daily lives. We reflected on our commitments to fostering a supportive school community and extending our efforts beyond the classroom to the wider world.

This initiative not only reinforced our shared values but also encouraged a sense of belonging and purpose among all members of our school family.

Mission Statement Week - September 2024

Working Praying Sharing
and Learning Together

We were working, praying,
sharing and learning
together in our Nursery.



We decorated our mission
statement in our books.



We practised making the
Sign of the Cross.

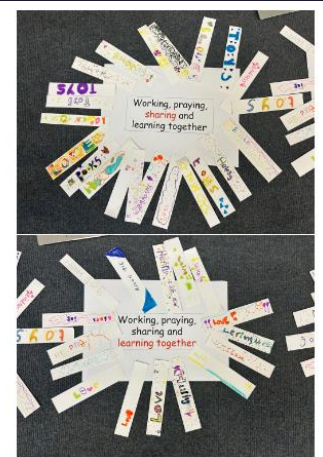
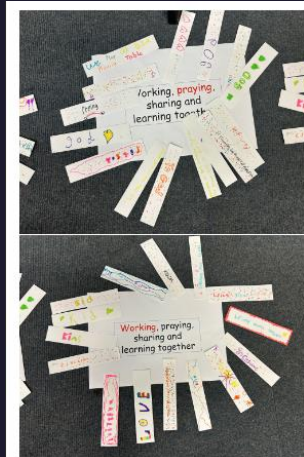


Year 4

What does our
school mission
mean to us?

Children thought
about each word and
what it meant to
them in our school.

Our mission
statement is up in
our classroom with
some of the
children's words
around it to remind
us of how we can live
our mission in
school.

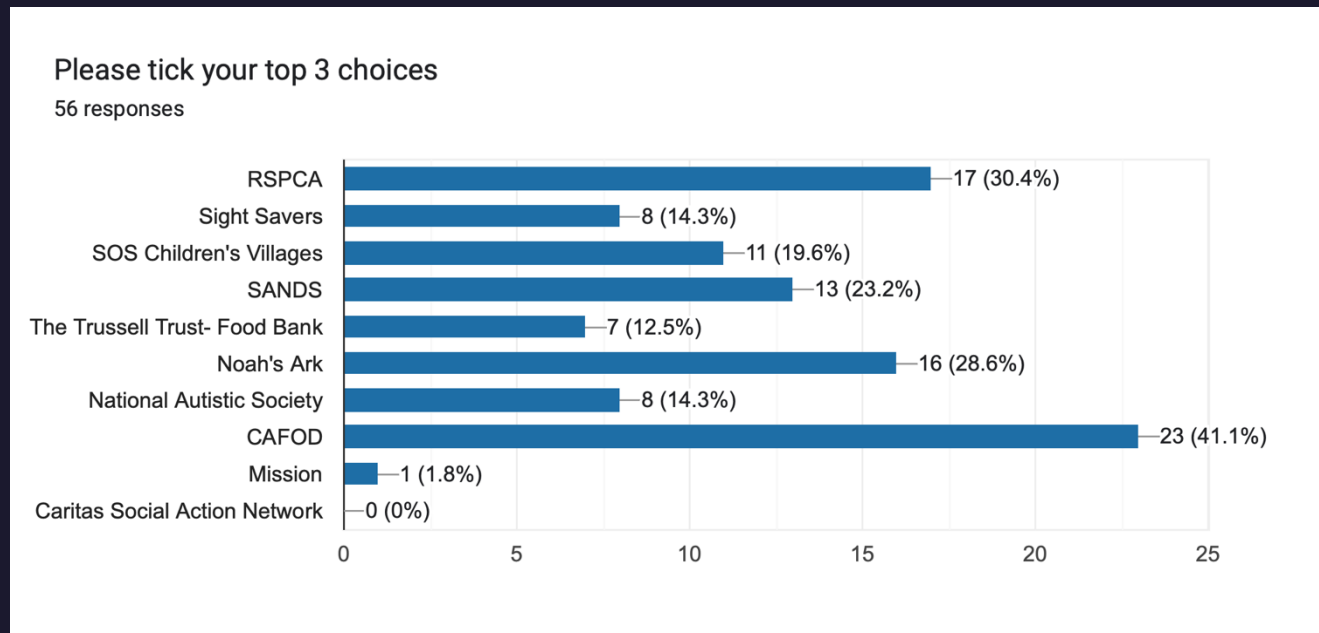


Charity Selection

During our Mission Statement Week, we reflected on how we can embody our mission of "Sharing" what we have with others. This was a wonderful opportunity for the pupils to reflect on the importance of being grateful and generous and doing what we can for those who need it most.

As part of this initiative, pupils conducted research and held a vote to select charities for our school to support. The suggestions for these charities were based on feedback received from parents via our previous charity selection form. We then shared our voting form with parents and carers through Dojo, allowing you to participate in the decision-making process alongside us.

The top three charities selected were CAFOD, RSPCA, and Noah's Ark. During the Autumn term, we proudly raised funds for CAFOD by participating in Brighten Up Day. In addition to our fundraising efforts, we showed our support for the community by collecting food items for a local food bank, reinforcing the principles of sharing and caring that lie at the heart of our mission. We extend our gratitude to all parents and carers for their involvement and support throughout this important initiative.

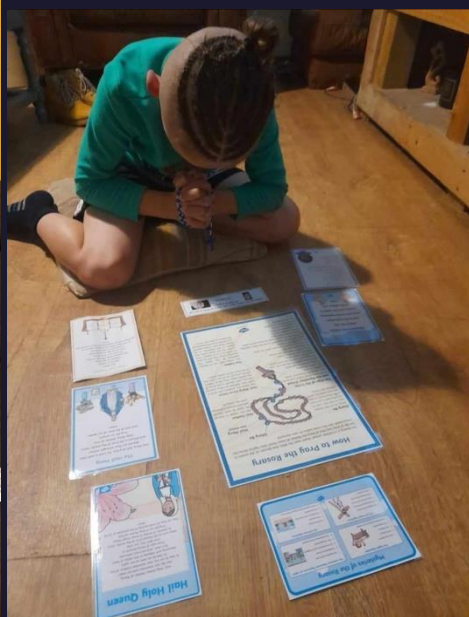




CAFOD Family Fast Day-Food Bank Donation

October- The Month of The Holy Rosary

Pupil Prayer Packs



Throughout October, as part of the Month of the Holy Rosary, our Year 3-6 pupils took home Rosary Prayer Packs.

The Rosary is a lovely way for families to join together in prayer, reflecting on the lives of Jesus and Mary.





November- Remembrance Day

During November, our pupils participated in the town Remembrance Day service held on the square at the War Memorial. This significant occasion allowed our pupils to engage with the local community and honour the sacrifices made by many. As part of the service, our pupils read a poem and laid a wreath on behalf of our school and parish.

December-Care Home Visits

As we embraced the season of Advent, we once again connected with our community. Our pupils visited a local care home, where they shared the joy of singing Christmas songs, playing games, and taking part in arts and crafts.

Doing this not only brought smiles to the residents' faces but also deepened our understanding of our values of being Compassionate and Loving to others and being Grateful for what we have and Generous with our time during Advent.

It was heartwarming to see our children embodying these values, reminding us all of the true meaning of this special time of year.



**‘The heavens are telling the glory of
God’ (Ps 19:1).**

They explored revelation of the Christian belief that all that is comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation.

They also explored the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament.

Thursday 21st November 2024

In Llanelli Major, Vale of Glamorgan, many refugees have been constructed to provide shelter and support for those in need. However, this situation has sparked controversy among some local residents who believe the council has wasted money on these homes, arguing that the funds could have been better spent on other community projects.

In light of this situation, you can write a letter to Yvette Cooper, The Secretary of State for the Home Department, advocating for kindness and understanding towards refugees and asylum seekers. Remember to think about 'Your Teaching on loving others and being a good neighbour'.

Dear Home Secretary
my name is Sarah Joseph we
been learning about the good
Samaritans this week and im writing
this to you because (i) would
(ii) learning about the importance of being good
It is important to make ho
so People can live if the
don't have houses or food
live. And im trying to be li
the good samaritan (iii) stay in an
(iv) being a good neighbour
I think we should continue
building houses because every
is made in Gods image and S
try to help People who are
and they will treat you
same way you treated the
everyone is wonnable and (v) the
open for us poor.



Q) How did Toms understanding of dignity and stewardship change by the end of the skit? Tom's understanding of stewardship changed ALOT. In the 1st scene he was kicking rubbish and mocking Emma but in the 3rd scene he agreed to help litterpicking.

Q) How can we apply the lessons from the skit into our own lives? What can we do to show respect for others and the environment? We can litterpick more often, push anti-bullying rules to the limits, keep recycling and not harming or harassing our school and property.

[illegible]

Dear God Thank you for making the world Plants and use Amen

Date: Monday 14th October, 2024

1.1.4. The Nicene Creed

L.O. To recognise that through people cannot see God they can sense his presence through the awe and wonder experienced in the beauty and order of creation.

Believe

	I can say and draw what I am thankful for.
  	I can write a thank you prayer to God (with support).
   	I can write a thank you prayer to God (without support). ✓✓

Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise

‘In many and various ways, God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets’
(Heb 1:1).

The prophets speak of God reaching to his people, calling them back into a relationship with him. In this branch, pupils explored the Christian understanding of the teaching of the prophets as they point to the fulfilment of God’s promise in a messiah, Jesus Christ. They explored the expectant waiting for the Messiah through the Advent season and how this speaks to Christians today as they wait for Christ. Pupils will have encountered the story of the Nativity of Jesus and the mystery of the incarnation.

